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**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP  
of the  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**October 28, 2008  
Minutes**

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**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP. AN AUDIOCASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.**

The Meeting of the Transportation Conformity Working Group was held at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

**In Attendance:**

Abrishami, Lori	MTA
Alameida, Stacy	MTA
Gainor, Mike	MTA
Litschi, Michael	OCTA
Williams, Leann	Caltrans, District 7

**SCAG Staff**

Amatya, Naresh  
Asuncion, John  
Luo, Rongsheng  
Nadler, Jonathan  
Sherwood, Arnie

**Via Teleconference:**

Alvarez, Grace	RCTC
Bloomberg, Lauren	CH2M
Brady, Mike	Caltrans Headquarters
Cacatian, Ben	Ventura County APCD
Clymo, Amy	CH2M
Fagan, Paul	Caltrans, District 8
Greve, Fred	Mestre Greve Associates
Jeffrey, Edison	Caltrans, District 8
Johnson, Sandy	Caltrans, District 11
Jones, Matt	Mestre Greve Associates
Kratovil, Aimee	FHWA
Lopez, Rosa	IVAG
O'Connor, Karina	EPA, Region 9
Poe, Lisa	SANBAG
Sells, Eyvonne	SCAQMD
Simon, Rich	CH2M

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Tax, Wienke	EPA, Region 9
Wade, Dennis	ARB
Walecka, Carla	TCA
Washburn, Carolyn	CH2M
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans, District 7

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

On behalf of Michael Litschi, Chair, Jonathan Nadler, SCAG, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

**2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments.

**3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

3.1 Approval Item

3.1.1 TCWG September 23, 2008 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

It was noted that the minutes posted on TCWG website had been updated to reflect the conformity SIP discussion.

**4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

4.1 RTP Update

Naresh Amatya, SCAG, stated that the Amendment to the 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Consistency Amendment to the 2008 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) were presented to the Transportation Committee on Oct. 2 who approved for release. The public comment period will close on November 7<sup>th</sup>. A public hearing was also held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The hearing was made available via video- or tele-conferencing at SCAG's Riverside office, Imperial County, and Ventura County. Only one minor comment has been received up to date. The amendment will be presented to the Regional Council (RC) on December 4<sup>th</sup> for adoption. After RC adoption, SCAG will forward the documents to the Federal agencies for their approval.

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**4.2     RTIP Update**

John Asuncion, SCAG, stated that the 2008 RTIP is expected to be approved sometime next week. RTIP Amendment #1 is currently out for a 30-day public comment period which will end on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Staff anticipates RC adoption on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Asuncion further stated that staff has begun review of the submittals for RTIP Amendment #2.

**4.3     Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms**

- 1) 46460** – SR-79 improvement between Thompson Road and Domenigoni Parkway in an unincorporated area of Riverside County, north of the city of Murrieta.

**Note:** The project was originally brought forward to the TCWG in June earlier this year. Amy Clymo, CH2M, clarified that the project was determined as “not a POAQC” then. The project was re-submitted this month with an only correction to the opening year of 2010 rather than 2011. Mr. Nadler, SCAG, confirmed that the project will not trigger a regional model run.

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

- 2) 20061001** – Installation of a new traffic signal at the intersection of Grove Avenue and Princeton Street in the City of Ontario.

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

- 3) 20061001** – Installation of a new traffic signal at the intersection of Vineyard Avenue and Francis Street in the City of Ontario.

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

- 4) LA0C8012** –Realign existing two northbound (NB) on-ramps and one NB off-ramp south and north of Western Boulevard. The existing NB off-ramp to westbound Western Boulevard will be removed as part of the proposed project.

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

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- 5) **TDR64** – A 5-level parking structure at the Metro Link station in City of San Bernardino.

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

4.4 Review of Qualitative PM Hot Spot Analysis

**State Route 79 Realignment Project: Domenigoni Parkway to Gilman Springs Road**

Amy Clymo, CH2M, gave a brief presentation of the qualitative analysis with a conclusion that the project was not a POAQC.

Andrew Yoon, Caltrans District 7, stated that the qualitative analysis did not include an opening year which is required per conformity guidance. Mike Brady, Caltrans Headquarters, advised that the 2015 traffic and emission data be included in the re-submittal.

Arnie Sherwood, SCAG, asked for modeling or analysis reasons for getting lower VMTs for the realignment project compared with no-build scenario. Mr. Brady, Caltrans Headquarters, advised that such reasons should be mentioned in the report.

The TCWG concluded to hold off on making a decision on the analysis until the updated report is available for review.

4.5 TCM Discussion

Jonathan Nadler, SCAG, stated that a TCM subgroup will be reconstituted as suggested by Eyvonne Sells, SCAQMD. Members who are interested in participating in the subgroup should email their interest to Mr. Nadler and Rongsheng Luo within the next two weeks. The purpose of the sub-committee is to discuss the more technical side of the TCM issues prior to bringing them forward for review by the TCWG.

Mr. Nadler stated that the two Metro TCM substitutions, the bike lane project and the bus stop improvement project, were released for 30-day public review and no comments were received. The TCM substitutions will be presented to the SCAG's Energy and Environment Committee in November for their approval. The Regional Council will review the TCM substitutions at its December meeting. After RC adoption, the TCM substitutions will be forwarded to the Air Resources Board

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(ARB) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for their concurrence.

**5.0 INFORMATION SHARING**

Karina O'Connor, EPA, stated that she had received the existing conformity SIP documents from SCAQMD and VCAPCD. Ms. O'Connor asked whether there are any other MOUs and rules along with the MOUs from other air districts. Arnie Sherwood, SCAG, confirmed that there are no other MOUs. Ms. O'Connor stated that she only had received rules along with the MOU from VCAPCD. Mr. Sherwood, SCAG, clarified that Mojave and Imperial never went through their final rule making.

Ms. O'Connor confirmed that EPA has prepared a draft revised conformity SIP guidance which is expected to be finalized soon. Mike Brady, Caltrans Headquarters, stated that the ARB website contains all the rules for all the air districts that need the rules.

Ms. O'Connor stated that EPA recently approved the conformity SIP for the Bay Area and Las Vegas.

Ms. O'Connor stated that EPA and ARB will develop two sets of quantitative PM analysis guidance, one for California and one for the rest of the country. The draft national guidance will come out by the end of this year and the final version will be done by the end of next year. EPA and ARB will work closely with RTAC to develop guidance for California.

Mr. Brady, Caltrans Headquarters, announced that the next Statewide Conformity Working Group Meeting is going to be held on November 13<sup>th</sup> in Fresno. Tele-conference sites have been set up locally for interested parties. The agenda and tele-conference sites will be posted on the Caltrans website.

**6.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Michael Litschi adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on November 25, 2008 at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.